

WAR IN IRAQ



Operation Iraqi Freedom has increased public awareness for our troops in all branches of the military. I have received many calls about what individuals at home can do to help support those who are fighting. Below is a list of suggestions for ways to become involved:

- **Helping Out:** Calling Cards: <http://www.operationuplink.org>
Care Packages("Operation USO Care Package):
<http://www.usocares.org/home.htm>
- **Write to Troops:** "Operation Dear Abby": <http://www.OperationDearAbby.net>
"Defend America"(Say Thank You):
<http://anyservicemember.navy.mil>
- **Statement from Senator Gregg:**
[Senator Gregg Comments on Coalition Forces in Baghdad](#)
- **Military Contacts:** Army: <http://www.army.mil/> or 800-984-8523
Navy: <http://www.navy.mil/> or 877-663-6772
Marines: <http://www.usmc.mil/> or 877-663-6772
Air Force: <http://www.af.mil/> or 800-253-9276
- **Homeland Security Advisory System:**
General Information about the Advisory System
The meaning of each color/number
<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?theme=29>
- **Numbers for Support for Families of those Serving:**
Army: 1-800-833-6622 Air Force: 1-800-435-9941
Navy: 1-800-FSCLINE or 1-800-372-5463
Marine Corps:
 - Stationed East of the Mississippi River (minus Wisconsin) 1-800-336-4663
 - Stationed West of the Mississippi River (plus Wisconsin) 1-800-253-1624National Guard Bureau: 1-800-777-7731 (Defense Logistics Agency (DLA))

US Coast Guard: 1-800-872-4957, ext.932 (this is the Coast Guard EAP for HQ - Work-life program)

Deployment Health Support Hotline 1-800-497-6261

- **Children:**

- Parents Talking to Children (why, guidelines, reactions, etc...)

National Mental Health Association:

<http://www.nmha.org/reassurance/childrenDealwithWar.cfm>

US Coast Guard:

<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wk/g-wkw/worklife/talkingwithchildrenaboutwar.htm>

- Teachers Talking to Students (purpose, guidelines, what to keep in mind, etc..)

National Center for Children Exposed to Violence:

http://www.ncccv.org/docs/children_warT.pdf

Advisory:

The DoD does remind anyone looking to donate to please not flood the military mail system with letters, cards and gifts. Due to security concerns and transportation constraints, the Department cannot accept items to be mailed to "any service member." Some people have tried to avoid this prohibition by sending large numbers of packages to an individual service member's address, which however well intentioned, clogs the mail and causes unnecessary delays.